

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 THE HA 07058 281724Z
ACTION SS-14

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AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSH TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION EC BURSELS

S E C R E T THE HAGUE 7058

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, EGEN, RH, NL
SUBJ: ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND

REF: (A) STATE 304674; (B) STATE 310502

1. I PRESENTED FONMIN DOCUMENTATION ON ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND TOGETHER WITH SIGNED LETTER FROM SECRETARY AND SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 THE HA 07058 281724Z

FOREIGN SECRETARY CROSLAND THIS MORNING AT OUTSET OF CONVERSTATION WHICH I HAD ASKED FOR EARLIER FOR PURPOSE OF OBTAINING SUMMATION ON DUTCH TENURE AS EC PRESIDENT. THE LATTER IS SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL.

2. SAYING THAT HE WAS NOT SURPRISED TO BE RECEIVING

PACKAGE AND QTE HAD BEEN EXPECTING IT UNQTE, VAN DER STEOL PROMISED THOROUGH STUDY OF ALL ELEMENTS AND A TIMELY OFFICIAL RESPONSE. HAVING PLAINLY THOUGH ABOUT HOW HE WOULD RESPOND INITIALLY, VAN DER STOEL SAID HE FOLT COMPELLED TO EXPRESS SOME PRELIMINARY RESERVATIONS. FIRST, DUTCH WOULD FIND IT POLITICALLY DIFFICULT TO DEFEND CONTRIBUTION IF IT DEVELOPED THAT FUND WOULD BE ADMINISTERED BY TRANSITION GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF QTE SMTIH REGIME UNQTE. SECOND, GON WOULDHOPE THAT BECAUSE OF SPECIAL BRITISH ROLE IN RHODESIA, UK CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE HIGHER THAN 15 PERCENT ENVISIONED IN PROPOSAL, AND THIRD, THAT ALL GON DEVELOPMENT FUNDS ARE PRESENTLY COMMITTED AHEAD OVER LONG PERIOD OF TIME. IF DUTCH WERE TO COME FORWARD WITH SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTION, IT WOULD COME OUT OF PRONK'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MINISTRY. THE PROPOSAL WOULD BE REFERRED TO PRONK FOR STUDY AND RECOMMENDATION.

3. IN RESPONSE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS FROM VAN DER STOEL, I MADE POINTS, DRAWING FROM STATE 310502, THAT FUND IS VITAL TO RESTRUCTURING OF ECONOMY AND MAINTENANCE OF POLITICAL PEACE AND STABILITY IN ZIMBABWE AS COUNTRY LOOKS TO FUTURE, THAT WE AND BRITISH BELIEVE FUND WILL HAVE GREAT INFLUENCE ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT AND THATCONCEPT OF FUND IS BEING DISCUSSED WITH OTHERS THAN POTENTIAL DONORS, I.E., FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS AND VARIOUS NATIONAL LEADERS. VAN DER STOELS GENERAL AWARENESS OF PROPOSAL WAS ALSO EVIDENT WHEN HE ASKED WHETHER BILATERAL ASSISTANCE WOULD COUNT AS A CONTRIBUTION. ALLOWING THAT IT WOULD, I EMPHASIZED US-UK PREFERENCE FOR MULTILATERAL EFFORT. I VOLUNTEERED THAT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 THE HA 07058 281724Z

USG HAS DISUCSSED WITH MCNAMARA POSSIBILIT OF WORLD BANK MANAGMENT OF FUND.

4. IN REVIEWING TALKING POINTS IS SAID THAT BRITISH AND WE HOPED FOR SOME OFFICIAL RESPONSE FROM POTENTIAL DONORS BY JANUARY 15 INASMUCH AS THAT MIGHT WELL COINCIDE WITH RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE AND THAT POSITIVE RESPONSES WOULD PROVE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

5. VAN DER STOEL AGREED WITH DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING ANY DETAILED DISUCSSION PUBLICALLY.

COMMENT: WHILE I HAVE LITTLE DOUBT THAT VAN DER STOEL WILL GIVE HIS PERSONAL BACKING TO SOME LEVEL OF DUTCH PARTICIPATION, THE CONSIDERATIONS HE RAISED IN PARA 2 WILL FAIRLY OR UNFAIRLY GOVERN THE ULTIMATE DECISION OF THE GON. WITH THE PURSE STRINGS IN HIS CONTROL

PRONK WILL HAVE A GOOD DEAL TO SAY ABOUT WHAT THE
DUTCH DO. THAT FACT DOES NOT INSPIRE MY EXPECTATIONS. THIS
IS THE SORT OF ISSUE WHICH, AS THE SECRETARY ONCE
SAID, QTE CAUSES THE BLOOD TO COURSE THROUGH PRONKS
VEINS UNQTE.
MCCLOSKEY

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O, MR. GOLDSMITH.

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